

**Table 1: Allergic sensitization and eczema in 12 population-based studies<sup>4,5</sup>**

Reference	Study population	Study size	Age	Diagnostic criteria	No AD		AD	Odds ratio (95% CI)
					% atopic	spec IgE (ae)		
Schäfer et al 1999 (Germany)	Schoolchildren	1845	5-14	Physician	36%	spec IgE (ae)	75%	5.27 (2.54-11.15)
Schäfer et al 2000 (Germany)	West German school children/ East German school children	2075	5-6	Physician	26%		50%	2.84 (1.97-4.10)
		1926	5-6	Physician	23% SPT (ae+f)		37%	1.97 (1.43-2.71)
Möhrenschläger et al 2006 (Germany)	Schoolchildren	5476	5-7	Physician	25% spec IgE or SPT (ae)		40%	2.20 (1.80-2.70)
Arshad et al 2001 (UK)	Unselected birth cohort	981	4	Physician	16% SPT (ae+f)		43%	3.86 (2.59-5.75)
Perkin et al 2003 (UK)	Unselected birth cohort	614	5	Physician	12% SPT (ae+f)		33%	3.0 (1.78-4.92)
Mortz et al 2003 (Denmark)	Schoolchildren	1501	12-16	Physician	19% spec IgE (ae+f)		30%	2.23 (1.65-3.25) 1.25 (0.77-2.02)**
					20% SPT (ae+f)		64%	6.78 (3.54-12.98) 2.50 (1.09-5.74)**
Rönmark et al 2003 (Sweden)	Schoolchildren	3431	7-8	Questionnaire (unvalidated)	Not given SPT (ae)		Not given	2.34 (1.92-2.86) physician-diagnosed 1.41 (1.24-1.62) 'itchy rash past 12 mths'
Hatlevig et al 1987 (Sweden)	Schoolchildren	242	10-14	Physician	18% spec IgE (ae)		27%	Not given

Soto-Quiros et al 2002 (Costa Rica)	Schoolchildren	170	10-13	Questionnaire (validated)	76% SPT (ae)	78%	1.1 (0.5-2.4)
Yemaneberhan et al 2003 (Ethiopia)	Cross-sectional household survey	12876	5-60+	Questionnaire (unvalidated)	8% SPT (ae)	15%	1.99 (0.93-4.26)
Leung et al 1994 (South-East Asia)	Schoolchildren in Hong Kong China (San Bu) Malaysia (Kota Kinabalu)	1062 737 409	13.9 16.4 15.5 (mean age)	Questionnaire (unvalidated)	21% 9% 4% SPT (ae)	23% 11% 7%	1.1 (0.7-1.8)* 1.1 (0.6-1.8)* 1.9 (0.6-5.6)*
Hesselmar et al 2001 (Sweden)	Schoolchildren	412	12	Questionnaire (unvalidated)	Not given SPT (ae)	Not given	1.4 (0.84-2.36)